

21 November 1973

Mrs. Allen W. Dulles
2723 Que Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 22007

Dear Clover:

I had a very pleasant lunch yesterday with Mr. Ranney and I think we are making progress on the Deed of Gift to Princeton. Several points came up about which I said I would write to you.

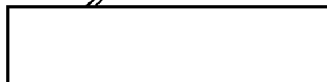
First, Mr. Ranney said you brought up the question of any fees for my assistance. I want to assure you that I regard this as a labor of love and a public service if I can be helpful in getting Allen's papers properly established for posterity so please give no further consideration to any question of fees.

Secondly, he brought up the membership on the committee which would pass on access to the papers. He said you had mentioned Jim Angleton as a possibility. I have just talked to Jim and he said he would be honored to serve on such a committee. If you would like me to do so, I also would feel honored.

The third point has to do with Harris Smith. Basically, I think his heart is in the right place. Since he has not had full access to all documentation he has depended mostly on personal interviews and this is always a chancy business as all our memories get faultier and faultier. However, insofar as this process can be used, he has done a pretty good job of it in the past. I am sure that he would be willing to let us all read his text when he has it done although in the OSS book he was not always ready to accept our suggestions for changes. He had a good record while he worked here at the Agency and I have no reason to feel he is antagonistic. I am not sure he is the person I would choose to write a book on Allen but since he is so far along I thought I would talk with him and have done so. So have a number of others such as John Bross and Bronson Tweedy.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do for you and
I hope you have a happy Thanksgiving with the family.

Sincerely,



Lawrence R. Houston

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